

March 31, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to strongly recommend that **Ms. Lori Gardner** be hired for a classroom teaching position in your school district. She was a student in my online Technology for Teachers course during the fall 2007 semester and in my Teaching Profession With Field Experience course in fall 2009.

Ms. Gardner possesses many attributes that facilitate her being an outstanding educator. For example, while earning an A in both of my classes, she demonstrated dedication, an excellent work ethic, and thorough understanding of the many aspects of teaching in her assignments. (In fact, she earned an A in every teacher education course she took at Jefferson College, which contributed to her outstanding cumulative GPA of 3.92.) In addition, she collaborated effectively and demonstrated leadership qualities during class discussions with her fellow preservice teachers.

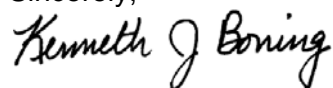
She had several real-world experiences in our program that acclimated her to the role of a teacher as well. In the Teaching Profession class, for example, she taught a series of economics lessons through the Junior Achievement (JA) program to fifth grade students at Athena Elementary School. She also served as a classroom teaching assistant (CTA) in a third grade class at Hillsboro Elementary and a fifth grade class at Vineland Elementary School. Furthermore, she has spent time in classrooms serving as a substitute teacher.

One can easily ascertain her abilities in the classroom by looking at the evaluation forms that her cooperating teachers completed on her performance for her JA and CTA experiences. All three teachers with whom she worked rated her as *excellent* on every criteria on her evaluation forms. Her JA cooperating teacher also commented that "Mrs. Gardner is without a doubt the best of the many JA teachers that I've seen. Her work is on a par with work that you would see in an experienced student teacher or a first year teacher." The teacher also praised Ms. Gardner's preparation, classroom management, and instructional variety. She went on to say, "Mrs. Gardner has the potential to become an exceptional classroom teacher. It has been a pleasure to work with her." One of her CTA mentor teachers cited that she "was very willing and eager to help the children in any way possible" and stated that "I wish I had Mrs. Gardner every day."

In addition, her involvement with the Teacher Education Club/SMNEA student organization on our campus (of which I was an advisor), which included her holding an officer position, demonstrated her desire to enhance her professional development more than just academically. Even after she graduated from our program, she has showed her commitment to the teaching profession as she has graciously accepted my invitation on multiple occasions to return to our campus to speak with our current students about her experiences and to give them advice on pursuing a teaching career.

As you have no doubt concluded, the above evidence clearly indicates that Ms. Gardner will truly be an asset to your school district. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions at the contact information I have included below.

Sincerely,



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